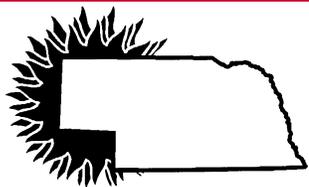


Panhandle Sun



The Newsletter of the Panhandle Library System

October/November 2009

Go To A Conference This Year!

Soon many librarians and media specialists across the state will be driving to LaVista to attend the **2009 NLA/NEMA Conference**. Many of us look forward to this great opportunity to network with fellow librarians, visit with vendors, see what other libraries are doing across the state, and attend enlightening workshops. If you are not already a member of the Nebraska Library Association or the Nebraska Educational Media Association, then I highly recommend you join. You will have a wonderful support network, and it is a great way to keep abreast of library trends and issues. For information on joining NLA go to www.nebraskalibraries.org. To join NEMA go to www.schoollibrariesrock.org.

There are many other professional conference opportunities for library professionals and media specialists. Some are specialized and others offer more of a broad focus. Here is a list of upcoming conferences arranged chronologically by date.

2009

October 20-22: Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums 2009 Annual Conference, Portland, OR. Website: <http://www.tribalconference.org/>

October 26-28: Internet Librarian 2009, Monterey, CA. Website: <http://www.infotoday.com/il2009/>

November 5-8: National Association of School Librarians 14th National Conference and Exhibition, Charlotte, NC. Website: <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009.cfm>

2010

January 15-19: American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, Boston, MA. Website: <http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesandevents/upcoming/midwinter/2010/index.cfm>

March 23-27: Public Library Association 2010 13th National Conference, Portland, OR. Website: http://www.placonference.org/general_information.cfm

April 12-14: 25th Annual Computers in Libraries Conference, Arlington, VA. Website: <http://www.infotoday.com/cil2010/>

May 25-27: BookExpo America 2010 Conference, New York, NY. Website: <http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/en/>

June 24-29: American Library Association Annual Conference, Washington DC. Website: <http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesandevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>

July 1-3: National Education Association Expo 2010 New Orleans, LA. Website: <http://www.neaexpo.com/aboutneaexpo.htm>

October 14-16: Association for Rural and Small Libraries and Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services Joint Conference 2010, Denver, CO

Are you concerned about the cost? **APPLY FOR A PLS SCHOLARSHIP!** Contact the PLS office for details.

In This Issue:

- **PLS Upcoming Events; P. 2**
- **News From PLS Libraries; P. 3**
- **Nebraska Libraries Future Search Discussion Topic: Global Community; p. 4, 5**
- **Golden Sower Award Nominee Titles; P. 6, 7**
- **Articles from NLLI Participants; P. 12, 13**

Upcoming Events

October 12, 2009 Ellen Klages Author Tour

Participating Libraries: Kimball Jr/Sr High School, Scottsbluff Middle School, and Mitchell Schools.

October 15, 2009 Alliance Public Library 100yr Celebration

Location: Alliance Public Library, 1750 Sweetwater Ave, Suite 101, Alliance, NE 69301

Time: 5:00pm

Alliance Public Library is celebrating their 100th yr of having a library and 10yr anniversary of being in their current building. A local artist will be doing a painting. Everyone is invited!

October 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting Northern Panhandle

Location: Crawford Elementary School, 908 5th Street, Crawford, NE

Time: 10:00am

Topic: Programming



October 28, 29,30 2009 NLA/NEMA Annual Conference

Theme: Nebraska Libraries, Bridges to Information

Location: La Vista Conference Center, 12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista, NE

For details go to: <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/>

November 5, 12, 19 Basic Skills Training : Collection Development

Location: Alliance Public Library

Time each day: 10:00am to Noon and 1:00 to 3:00pm

Cost: \$35 (which includes class materials) for all three classes, payable to Linda Jensen at the Nebraska Library

Commission before the first class. To register call 800-307-2665 or go to their website at: [http://](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us)

www.nlc.state.ne.us and click on "Library Training".

November 10, 2009 Panhandle Library System Board Meeting

Location: Bluffs Business Center, 1517 Broadway, Scottsbluff – Main floor conference room

Time: 10:00am

Contact: Panhandle Library System Toll Free 888-879-5303 Ph 308-632-1350

November 14, 2009 2009 Nebraska Book Festival

Location: Nebraska State Historical Society's Museum of Nebraska History, 15th & P Streets, Lincoln, NE

An awards luncheon will honor the winners of the Center for the Book's Mildred Bennett Award, Jane Geske Award, and Nebraska Book Awards. Writes Workshops will be offered free of charge.

Contact: Mary Jo Ryan, Nebraska Library Commission Communications Coordinator, 402-471-3434

November 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting Central Panhandle

Location: Lyman Public Library, 313 Jeffers Avenue, Lyman, NE

Time: 10:00am

Topic: Library Accreditation, Library Data & Keeping Statistics

News From Libraries Around The Panhandle

A Broadwater resident and ardent supporter of the library pledged \$100 to the library's book/media fund. He challenged other **Broadwater Public Library** supporters to match his donation. Library patrons accepted the challenge, and matched even more than the initial pledge.

The **Chadron Public Library** is offering three computer classes:

1. Introduction to Internet
2. Microsoft Office Word 2007
3. Microsoft Office Excel 2007

The classes are free and began this week. They will end the first week of December.

Chadron Public Library has a new children's librarian, Alva Roberts. Alva has prepared a movie festival for kids that will start October 5th. He is also working on Teen Read Month October 1st –October 30th. The theme is "Read Beyond Reality".

The library's Book Club is on its third year and is now sporting a web page. The Knitting and Crocheting Club made its first field trip. They visited the Brown Sheep Company.

The library is preparing language classes for the last part of Fall. They are also trying to form a Writers Club.

Merrillene Wood hosted a librarian's meeting in September at **Western Nebraska Community College in Sidney**. The group talked about trustee issues. Ten librarians and one trustee attended the meeting.



The **Scottsbluff Public Library** has been renamed the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. The Lied Foundation Trust in Las Vegas will be giving the library foundation a \$600,000 grant for the remodel and expansion of the library. With this gift the City Council of Scottsbluff renamed the library in honor Ernst F. Lied and his parents, Ernst M. and Ida K. Lied. Groundbreaking should take place in November.

The **Goodall City Library** saved their READ letters from last year's NEMA/PLS Workshop for a special SRP project. They used the letters during the library's Be Creative @ Your Library summer reading program. Kendra Caskey, Library Director says "It was a great project and the kids really enjoyed it." She shares a picture with us.



You will notice some new faces at public librarians meetings around the Panhandle. Teri Whipple joined the **Rushville Public Library** June 1, just in time for Summer Reading. Teri is the Library Director. She Graduated from Chadron State College in May 2009 with a major in Library Information Management. Teri is entertaining the idea of getting her Masters. Tammy Howitt Covalt is the new Director of the **Bridgeport Public Library**. She began work in September. Tammy has a Bachelor's degree in Library Science/Information Management from CSC. Prior to taking the Director position, she worked in the Bridgeport High School library for 13 years.

Our Shared Vision for Library and Information Services Nebraska Libraries Future Search Conference

Global: Libraries embrace the richness of a global community

From the Library Bill of Rights: V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

ALA: Access to Information

“Libraries are major sources of information for society and they serve as guardians of the public's access to information more generally. The advent of the digital world has revolutionized how the public obtains its information and how libraries provide it. Libraries help ensure that Americans can access the information they need – regardless of age, education, ethnicity, language, income, physical limitations or geographic barriers – as the digital world continues to evolve. Core values of the library community such as equal access to information, intellectual freedom, and the objective stewardship and provision of information must be preserved and strengthened in the evolving digital world.

Equity of access means that all people have the information they need-regardless of age, education, ethnicity, language, income, physical limitations or geographic barriers. It means they are able to obtain information in a variety of formats-electronic, as well as print. It also means they are free to exercise their right to know without fear of censorship or reprisal. ‘ <http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/access/accesstoinformation/index.cfm>

According to projected census data, Nebraska is:

- 91.45% Native White*
- 4.5% Black*
- 7.9 % Hispanic/Latino*
- 1.1% American Indian*
- 1.1% Asian*

Are we meeting the needs of the diverse population that has become Nebraska?

Do a community analysis. Look at the census data for your community. www.census.gov will allow you to look at the current and projected statistics for your community. Look at the school data <http://reportcard.nde.state.ne.us/Main/Home.aspx> Do a needs assessment by handing out a questionnaire or sending one home with the electric bill. Know your community and what materials and access to information users need. Then do what you can to provide materials and services in their language, at their reading levels, on your website, wherever you can. ***Become observant.***

New language programs are being developed and marketed to libraries. These programs are very user friendly and something to consider purchasing for your users if this is a need in your community. One company who offers a quality product is called Mango. You can try it for free. It offers training in 12 languages and plans to rapidly expand. <http://www.mangolanguages.com/> ***Become outward focused.***

Do you offer programming in the language or utilize the diverse culture of the population in your community? Celebrate the holidays of the cultures in your community. Don't be afraid to ask about traditions, what the group would like the library to offer. Use members of different groups to offer the programs, display objects from their home country, or any other event that allows you to work together. ***Become collaborators.***

At NLA/NEMA several years ago, Mary Pipher, Nebraska author, spoke about the importance of libraries for people new to the United States and new to Nebraska. Embrace these ideas. Get Nebraska maps and driver's license books to give to your patrons. You can print off the Driver's license books at: <http://www.dmv.ne.gov/examining/index.html> or you can download the audio at the same site. Nebraska guides and maps are available at: http://www.visitnebraska.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=206&Itemid=313 or call 877-NEBRASKA. What other information is important when moving to a community, especially if you aren't a native English speaker?

Become the welcoming place.

New computers allow the user to change to the language of their choice. Let the user change the language, let the user send e-mail, and don't block places that allow connections to family, to culture, to important services for one's life.

Become indispensable.

Questions to consider:

1. Do you know the make-up of your community? Are you providing services to all people regardless of language or ethnicity?
2. Is the library one of the first places people new to the community come for information and services regardless of their nationality or language?
3. Do you offer programming that is appealing to different segments of your community throughout the year?
4. Is it possible to collaborate with diversity members of your community to offer experiences which celebrate all cultures and experiences?
5. Do you provide access to computers and on-line information in languages of your population?

Ellen Klages is coming to Nebraska!

Ellen Klages generously offered to travel to and tour Nebraska and visit with school and public library students and patrons. She is the author of *The Green Glass Sea*, the current [One Book for Nebraska Kids](#) selection. Her visit will help to emphasize that reading is fun and can also spark questions about history, science, family situations, and life. She will be visiting school libraries and public libraries. The school sites may or may not be open to the public. All public library visits on the tour will welcome members of the public.

Times of day are being determined and will be posted on the Nebraska Library Commission website as soon as possible. Make plans now to attend one of her public library presentations in a nearby community!

Visit <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/obonk.html> to see puzzles, activities and discussion questions for *The Green Glass Sea*.

This program is presented by the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, funded in part by the Nebraska Humanities Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. This project is supported in part by the United States Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Ellen Klages will visit these sites:

Monday, Oct. 12, 2009

Kimball Junior/Senior High School
Scottsbluff – Bluffs Middle School
Mitchell Elementary School

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009

North Platte Public Library and
Schools joint session
Gothenburg – Dudley Elementary
School

Grand Island Public Library and
Schools joint session

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009

Hastings Public Library
Seward Public Library
Plattsmouth Public Library

Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009

Prague Public Schools
Clarkson Public Library
Wayne Public Library

Friday, Oct. 16, 2009

West Point Public Library
Scribner Public Library
Louisville Public Schools
Lincoln – Lee Booksellers

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009

Elmwood Public Library
Norfolk Public Library

Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009

Omaha Public Library

PANHANDLE SUN

Nebraska Golden Sower Award Nominee Titles 2010-2011

Sponsored by Nebraska Library Association's School, Children's, and Young People's Section



2010-2011 Primary Nominees

Becker, Bonny. *A VISITOR FOR BEAR*.

Illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton. Candlewick Press, 2008. ISBN 0763628077

Crisp, Marty. *TITANICAT*.

Illustrated by Robert Papp. Sleeping Bear Press, 2008. ISBN 1585363553

Deedy, Carmen Agra. *MARTINA THE BEAUTIFUL COCKROACH: A CUBAN*

FOLKTALE.

Illustrated by Michael Austin. Peachtree, 2007. ISBN 1561453994 [also available with bilingual audio: ISBN 9781561454686; Spanish edition: ISBN 9781561454259]

Henson, Heather. *THAT BOOK WOMAN*.

Illustrated by David Small. Atheneum, 2008. ISBN 1416908129

Hest, Amy. *THE DOG WHO BELONGED TO NO ONE*.

Illustrated by Amy Bates. Abrams, 2008. ISBN 0810994836

Hopkinson, Deborah. *ABE LINCOLN CROSSES A CREEK: A TALL THIN TALE (INTRODUCING HIS FORGOTTEN FRONTIER FRIEND)*.

Illustrated by John Hendrix. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2008. ISBN .37583768X

Laminack, Lester L. *SNOW DAY!*

Illustrated by Adam Gustavson. Peachtree, 2007. ISBN 1561454184

Lies, Brian. *BATS AT THE LIBRARY*.

Illustrated by the author. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. ISBN 061899923X

Madison, Alan. *VELMA GRATCH AND THE WAY COOL BUTTERFLY*.

Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Schwartz & Wade, 2007. ISBN 0375835970

Urbanovic, Jackie. *DUCK SOUP*.

Illustrated by the author. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN 0061214418

2010-2011 Intermediate Nominees

Broach, Elise. *MASTERPIECE*.

Illustrated by Kelly Murphy. Henry Holt, 2008. ISBN 0805082700 [paperback: Square Fish, March 2010; ISBN 0312608705]

Hart, Alison. *GABRIEL'S HORSES*.

Peachtree, 2007. ISBN 1561453986 [paperback: Peachtree, Feb. 2010; ISBN 9781561455287]

Hill, Kirkpatrick. *DO NOT PASS GO*.

Margaret K. McElderry, 2007. ISBN 1416914005

Jonell, Lynne. *EMMY AND THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING RAT*.

Illustrated by Jonathan Bean. Henry Holt, 2007. ISBN 080508150X [paperback: Square Fish, 2008; ISBN 0312384602]

Kehret, Peg. ***STOLEN CHILDREN***.

Dutton, 2008. ISBN 0525478353 [paperback: Puffin, Feb. 2010; ISBN 0142415138]

Korman, Gordon. ***SWINDLE***.

Scholastic, 2008. ISBN 0439903440 [paperback: Scholastic, 2009; ISBN 0439903459]

Law, Ingrid. ***SAVVY***.

Dial, 2008. ISBN 0803733062 [paperback: Puffin, March 2010; ISBN 0142414336]

Lupica, Mike. ***LONG SHOT***.

Dial, 2007. ISBN 0399247173 [paperback: Puffin, March 2010; ISBN 0142415200]

Ryan, Pam Munoz. ***PAINT THE WIND***.

Illustrated by Carson Ellis. Little, Brown, 2007. ISBN 0439873622 [paperback: Scholastic, 2009; ISBN 054510176X]

Sanderson, Brandon. ***ALCATRAZ VS. THE EVIL LIBRARIANS***.

Harcourt, 2007. ISBN 0439925509 [paperback: Scholastic, 2008; ISBN 0439925525]

2010-2011 Young Adult Nominees

Anderson, Laurie Halse. ***CHAINS***.

Simon & Schuster, 2008. ISBN 1416905855 [paperback: Atheneum, Jan. 2010; ISBN 1416905863]

Applegate, Katherine. ***HOME OF THE BRAVE***.

Feiwel & Friends, 2007. ISBN 0312367651 [paperback: Feiwel & Friends, 2008; ISBN 0312535635]

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. ***THE BOY WHO DARED***.

Scholastic, 2008. ISBN 0439680131

Bauer, Joan. ***PEELED***.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2008. ISBN 0399234756 [paperback: Speak, 2009; ISBN 0142414301]

Burg, Shana. ***A THOUSAND NEVER EVERS***.

Delacorte, 2008. ISBN 0385734700 [paperback: Yearling, March 2010; ISBN 0440422094]

Collins, Suzanne. ***THE HUNGER GAMES***.

Scholastic, 2008. ISBN 0439023483

Hobbs, Will. ***GO BIG OR GO HOME***.

HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN 0060741414 [paperback: HarperCollins, Sept. 2009; ISBN 0060741430]

Supplee, Suzanne. ***ARTICHOKE'S HEART***.

Dutton, 2008. ISBN 0525479023 [paperback: Speak, 2009; ISBN 0142414271]

Varrato, Tony. ***FAKIE***.

Lobster Press, 2008. ISBN 9781897073797 [only available in paperback]

Pearson, Ridley. ***STEEL TRAPP: THE CHALLENGE***.

Disney Editions, 2008. ISBN 1423106407 [paperback: Hyperion, 2009; ISBN 1423108035]

CALL FOR STUDENT ENTRIES!

Letters About Literature, a national reading and writing promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in partnership with Target, invites young readers in grades 4 – 12 to enter this year's **Letters About Literature** letter writing competition. Young readers simply write a personal letter to an author explaining how that author's work somehow changed the readers' view of their world.



Letters About Literature awards both state and national prizes on three competition levels: Level 1 for grades 4 – 6; Level 2 for grades 7 – 8; and Level 3 for grades 9 – 12. Six national winners will each receive cash awards and will nominate a school or community library to receive a \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion grant. Twelve national honor winners will likewise receive cash awards and also nominate a school or community library to receive a \$1,000 LAL Reading Promotion grant. Nebraska winners are honored in a Proclamation-signing ceremony and receive cash awards and gift certificates.

Teachers, librarians, and parents can download free teaching materials on reader response and reflective writing at www.lettersaboutliterature.org. Submission deadline is *postmark* December 12, 2009. State winners will be notified in March 2010 and national winners by mid-April. Nebraska-specific information (including letters from Nebraska winners of past contests) is available at <http://www.nebraska.gov/publications/lal/aboutcontest.html>. **Letters About Literature** is sponsored in Nebraska by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Nebraska Library Commission, with support from Houchen Bindery Ltd. and Lee Booksellers.

Letters About Literature supports national standards for teaching language arts & reading as recommended by the National Council of Teachers of English and the International Reading Association



WRITE AN ESSAY - PAY FOR COLLEGE. YES! THE TWO ARE CONNECTED!

The **Nebraska Council on Economic Education** is sponsoring the 2009 Money Smart Kid Scholarship Essay Contest. Students in **grades 6-8** are encouraged to answer this year's Money Smart Question:

The current U.S. economy is facing significant challenges. Please describe some of these challenges and briefly discuss some of the steps that your family and other families can take to meet these challenges.

Prizes:

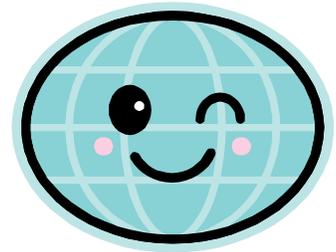
- 1st place - \$1000 Contribution to a Nebraska State Farm College Savings Plan Account
- 2nd place - \$500 Contribution to a College Savings Plan of Nebraska Account.
- 3rd place - \$250 Contribution to a College Savings Plan of Nebraska Account.

Essays due October 25, 2009.

For complete details and entry form see www.nebraskacouncil.org

Nebraska Library Commission Offers Conservation Resources

Treasured objects and artifacts held by Nebraska libraries and museums will be preserved for future generations with help from the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf, a core set of conservation books and online resources donated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS has now awarded nearly 3,000 free sets of the IMLS Bookshelf, in cooperation with the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH).



“When IMLS launched this initiative to improve the dire state of our nation’s collections, we understood that the materials gathered for the Bookshelf would serve as important tools for museums, libraries, and archives nationwide,” said Anne-Imelda Radice, Director of IMLS. “We were both pleased and encouraged by the overwhelming interest of institutions prepared to answer the call to action, and we know that with their dedication, artifacts from our shared history will be preserved for future generations.”

The Nebraska Library Commission received this essential set of resources based on an application describing the needs for the care of its collections and plans to share these resources with museums and libraries across Nebraska. The IMLS Bookshelf focuses on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collection management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally-specific conservation issues.

Libraries and museums are encouraged to contact Nebraska Library Commission Information and Reference Services to borrow these resources. Call: 800-307-2665 (Nebraska only) or 402-471-4016 Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. CST; fax: 402-471-6244; or e-mail: nlc.ask@nebraska.gov. A list of the materials in the collection is available on the Nebraska Library Commission blog at www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/nlc/2009/08/connecting_to_collections_book_1.html.

The IMLS Bookshelf is a crucial component of Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action, a conservation initiative that the Institute launched in 2006. IMLS began the initiative in response to a 2005 study released in partnership with Heritage Preservation, *A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index Report on the State of America’s Collections*. The multi-faceted, multi-year initiative shines a nationwide spotlight on the needs of America’s collections, especially those held by smaller institutions, which often lack the human and financial resources necessary to adequately care for their collections. For more information on the Connecting to Collections initiative, see www.imls.gov/collections.



Read a Professional Journal - Sign up for the PLS Journal Rotation

Here’s how it works...

A member library may sign up to receive a particular journal, and PLS will mail the journal to the library. The library gets a week to read the journal, and then mails it on to the next library on the rotation list. The library is responsible for postage fees.

PLS needs your help in determining which journals are of most interest to member libraries. If you plan to sign up for the journal rotation, please contact PLS and tell us which journals you would prefer to receive. Jeri is sending an email to all members asking for this information. Please contact the PLS office by Friday, October 16 with your choices.

The Alliance Library Foundation requests the honor of your presence at the 100th year celebration of the Alliance Public Library. Included in our celebration is the 10th anniversary of the Alliance Library / Learning Center and the dedication of our commissioned painting. The event will take place on October 15, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library, at 1750 Sweetwater Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska.

Please join the Foundation, to honor those who have contributed for the last 100 years to achieve this marvelous library facility that Alliance and area residents enjoy. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

Connect troubled teens with the power of reading with a Great Stories CLUB reading and discussion series. **The ALA Public Programs Office and YALSA are now accepting online applications through November 2 for the next round of Great Stories CLUB grants at www.ala.org/greatstories.** Funding was provided for this program by Oprah's Angel Network.

The Great Stories CLUB (Connecting Libraries, Underserved teens and Books) is a book club program designed to reach underserved, troubled teen populations through books that are relevant to their lives.

All types of libraries (public, school, academic and special) located within or working in partnership with facilities serving troubled teens in the United States and its territories are eligible to apply for a Great Stories CLUB grant. Potential organizations for Great Stories CLUB partnership include juvenile justice facilities, drug rehabilitation centers, nonprofits serving teen parents, alternative high schools, agencies serving teenaged foster children, shelters serving homeless and runaway youth and other agencies. For tips on creating a partnership, visit www.ala.org/greatstories.



Following the application process, 265 libraries will be selected to develop a book discussion program for troubled teens based on the three theme-related titles and will be given copies of the books to share with participants. Participating libraries will also receive access to an online toolkit to support the program, including sample discussion questions, recommended titles for further reading and other resources. Small cash grants (\$100-\$200) will be awarded to up to 50 sites for the support of program-related expenses.

For more information on the Great Stories CLUB, including guidelines, book titles and descriptions, application instructions and feedback from past participants, visit www.ala.org/greatstories.

**Panhandle Library System
Annual Board Minutes, Friday, July 17, 2009
Harms Advanced Technology Center, Scottsbluff, NE**

President Vickie Retzlaff called the meeting to order. Board members present: Terry Christensen, Vickie Retzlaff, Sue Shaver, Floyd Smith III, Rick Caudillo, Lori Hartman and Beth Trupp. Board Members absent were Kendra Caskey, Glenda Gamby, and Dixie Riley . Also present were Margie Harrison and Jeralyn Clapper.

Vickie Retzlaff presented pins to our three new board members, Lori Hartman, Sue Shaver, and Rick Caudillo.

Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded to our departing members, Kathy Terrell for 6yrs service, Jane Schlager for 3 yrs service (absent), and Deb Finley for 1 yr service.

The July 17, 2009 agenda was approved. Beth Trupp made the motion and Floyd Smith III seconded it.

The minutes from the last meeting, May 12, 2009 were approved. Lori Hartman made the motion and Beth Trupp seconded it.

Election of Officers : Nominations were Vickie Retzlaff for President, Floyd Smith III for Vice President, and Terry Christensen for Secretary. The vote was unanimous that these three members hold these offices.

Reports : Dave Orтели spoke about the Talking Book and Braille Service which can serve anyone in the state of NE who is blind, physically impaired, or has a reading disorder.

Marjorie Harrison presented the highlights of the year , upcoming events, and introduced the PLS Committees and members. She also gave the Annual Meeting report.

Dave Orтели gave the NLC report and talked about “Education That Parents Can Use”.

Beth Trupp gave the Public Relations Report.

Floyd Smith III gave the Scholarship and Continuing Education report.

PLS Award Winners: Margie presented two PLS Awards. The Advocacy Award went to George Ledbetter, Editor of the Chadron Record, in recognition of his outstanding support and promotion of the Chadron Public Library, its services and programs. The Distinguished Leadership Award went to Shelley French, from the Goodall City Library, for her special interest and contributions to the libraries.

Check Signers: Margie nominated Lori Hartman to be added to our check signer list and asked that a motion be made. Floyd Smith III made the motion and Beth Trupp seconded it. Terry Christensen took a roll call vote and the Aye’s were unanimous.

Featured Speaker: Craig Larson from KNEB radio station was our featured speaker. He gave an uplifting talk about the four corner stones : Humor, Hope, Heroes, and Harmony.

The meeting adjourned

The next PLS board meeting will be Sept 8, 2009 at the Bluffs Business Center, 1517 Broadway, Scottsbluff – In the main conference room. 10:00 a.m.

Letters From Leadership Institute

The Panhandle Library System Scholarship Committee awarded three \$100 scholarships for librarians to attend the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute in Schuyler, Nebraska.



Scholarships were awarded to:

Kendra Caskey, Goodall City Library Director
Christine Fullerton, Chadron State College Public Services Librarian
Merrillene Wood, WNCC Sidney Learning Resource Center Director

Each scholarship recipient submitted an article to share in the Panhandle Sun newsletter.

Nebraska Library Leadership Institute – Schuyler or Bust!

Submitted by *Merrillene Wood*

What an intense, information-filled week about libraries and leadership!! During the week, close to thirty individuals from across the state participated in “hands-on” collaborative learning using group situations. For instance, the groups worked as real estate organizations in order to purchase tracts of land; we made informational presentations and requested finances as library organizations to other business/organization individuals with very little lead time; and, we collaboratively discussed core library competencies, goals and vision statements, and how to incorporate them into our own libraries.

The participants also learned about utilizing group-specific ground rules for meetings, giving/receiving feedback and strengths/weaknesses we possessed as leaders using the Enneagram model. Based on our personality styles, we learned about strategies for working with other personalities and for further developing our own leadership potentials. Change paradigms and partnering with other entities were also stressed.

However, all was not work, as we enjoyed games in the evenings and a time for the mentors to discuss their leadership journeys in libraries and through life. The participants were able to network with the mentors, presenters and fellow librarians, and everyone enjoyed a creative closing in which the groups presented various “performances” that touched on the highlights of the week.

I would like to personally thank the Panhandle Library System, the Scholarship Committee and the Nebraska Library Commission for making this wonderful learning opportunity available to library staff across the state! I feel I benefitted enormously from the experience and have instituted many of the ideas learned into my own library and in my dealings with others.

The Panhandle Library System – Scholarship Committee

Thank you for the scholarship funds you generously gave to me to attend the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute in Schuyler, NE this past July. As a result of receiving the funds, I was able to attend the week long training. What an interesting and stimulating training it was! I was able to network with other library professionals in the state and brush up on my sales and marketing skills as well as understand more what defines a leader. The training was very intense and provided the best scenario to learn by being away in a secluded environment. The week away from home was quite stressful but so worth it! I hope to attend in future years as a mentor to new attendees. Thank you once again for the much needed funds to attend the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, without your assistance I would not have been able to attend.

Kendra Caskey

Library Director

I had a wonderful experience at the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute, and I would like to thank the Panhandle Library System for awarding me a scholarship. I learned a great deal about leadership styles and it was wonderful to be able to explore my personal leadership abilities in such a supportive setting. It was interesting to speak with colleagues from across the state and explore issues facing academic, public, school, and special libraries. One of the main issues that emerged in our discussions was the desire for a statewide library card. One of the goals of the Institute is to create a system that allows all Nebraskans to use any library in the state.

Our days at the Institute were busy, but there was also ample time for contemplation of the material. At the beginning of the week, we divided into four small groups. Throughout the week, we did a variety of exercises, played games, and had small and large discussions. The mentors were wonderful to work with, and they all shared valuable information. One of the most interesting aspects of the Institute was listening to the mentor's experiences in the nightly sessions. My group was fantastic, and I learned a great deal working with them and our mentors throughout the week. Thanks again for the scholarship.

Thanks,

Christine Fullerton

Fall Colloquium '09



Tracie D. Hall

The Ten Social Trends that Change the Way Libraries Can & Should Do Business

November 12, 2009 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Join us as Hall gives a lively analysis of the nation's exponential demographic shifts and the challenges posed to the library managers and frontline service providers to re-imagine library services as we know them. In this compelling and interactive discussion of important social trends, participants will gain insights into better matching traditional library services with contemporary user needs.

Founder and principal of GoodSeed Consulting Group, **Tracie D. Hall** previously served as Assistant Dean of Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, as Director of the American Library Association's Office for Diversity, and in various capacities at Seattle, New Haven Free, and Hartford Public Libraries. A frequent speaker, trainer and facilitator for education, information services, and non-profit organizations, Hall's writings on diversity and leadership have appeared in several professional publications. Hall's current work centers on inspiring and coaching organizations and individuals around excellence, inclusion, and innovation. She holds B.A.s from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and Masters degrees from Yale University and the University of Washington.

Thursday, November 12, 2009 5:30-9:30 p.m.
at The Cornhusker Marriott Hotel 333 S. 13th Street, Lincoln, NE
Yankee Hill I & II

Schedule of Events

5:30 - 6:30	Social hour, cash bar
6:30 - 7:30	Dinner
7:30 - 8:30	Presentation by Tracie D. Hall
8:30 - 9:30	Discussion

Dinner: Chicken Marsala or Champagne Pasta. All entrees include garden salad, chef's potatoes, fresh vegetables, rolls & butter and coffee, tea, or milk.

The Fall Colloquium is sponsored jointly by:
Eastern Library System & Southeast Library System.

Name _____ Library _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please choose one: Chicken Marsala Pasta

Send completed registration form & payment of \$40.00 to: Southeast Library System,
5730 R St., Ste. C-1, Lincoln, NE 68505. Deadline: Monday November 9, 2009.

**Also on November 12th - Interactive Workshop on the 10 Trends with Tracie D. Hall in
Lincoln from 1 to 4:30 p.m. More details to follow!**

BASIC SKILLS

Topic: Collection Development

Thursdays - November 5, 12, 19, 2009

Location: Alliance Public Library, 1750 Sweetwater Avenue, Suite 101, Alliance, NE 69301

Times each day: 10:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35.00 (which includes class materials) for all three classes, payable to Linda Jensen at the Nebraska Library Commission before the first class.

Please register with Nebraska Library Commission, Toll free: 800-307-2665 or go to their website at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us> and click on "Library Training"

PLS Shared Automation System Survey

Following the Panhandle Library System sponsored 2009 Automation Vendor Workshop; several libraries expressed interest in PLS hosting a shared automation system. Based on these requests, the Technology committee of the Panhandle Library System would like to explore options for a shared automation system. The primary asset of a shared automation system is to allow easy access to library catalogs for reciprocal borrowing & Interlibrary Loan. Another possible benefit to shared systems is cost savings due to cooperative purchasing power.

Seven Nebraska libraries are currently in the process of developing and implementing an open source integrated library system, which may open the doors to a statewide ILS. The PLS Technology committee is very interested in learning more about this project and how PLS libraries of all types and sizes may participate in a statewide shared automation system.

Right now, the PLS Technology committee would like to learn more about your interests, needs, and wants with regards to a shared automation system. **Please complete the survey on the reverse side of this page and return it to the Panhandle Library System by Friday, October 30, 2009.**

Address: Panhandle Library System, 1517 Broadway, Suite 129, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Fax: 308-632-3978

Email: marjorie.harrison@nebraska.gov

PLS Shared Automation System Survey

1. Depending on cost and options, would your library be interested in participating in a shared automation system with other PLS member libraries?

YES _____ NO _____ Maybe _____

If you answered YES or MAYBE, please answer question 2.

2. What key features would you like to see in a shared automation system? Please circle the three features that are most important to your library.

- A. Being able to select a member library and search its catalog/holdings from the search screen.
- B. Being able to access the combined holdings of all member libraries without having to select each library's individual database.
- C. Being able to place holds on other libraries materials for Interlibrary Loan.
- D. Being able to customize loan periods, fines, and other circulation policies, so that not all member libraries have to follow the same policies.
- E. Being able to access a shared patron database.
- F. Being able to streamline the process of cataloging records. Items are only cataloged once. Once it is in the system, then libraries only need to add copies to the record.
- G. Other (write in)

- H. Other (write in)

Jobalike in Oshkosh

Panhandle Library System

Everyone is invited!

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Time: 5:30pm

Location: Garden County High School

200 West 4th Street

Oshkosh, NE 69154

Cost: \$7.00 for dinner. Give money to Elaine Lake @ Jobalike

Topic: Share one new project/activity that you have recently implemented.

Group discussion to follow.



RSVP: By Wednesday November 23, 2009 with the Panhandle Library System, 1517
Broadway, Suite 129, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Toll free 888-879-5303, Phone 308-632-1350, Fax 308-632-3978

E-mail: jclapper@charterinternet.com or marjorie.harrison@nebraska.gov

PLS Public Librarians Meetings

If you are a public librarian or any PLS member you are invited to attend one or all of the public library meetings held throughout the Panhandle. Earn 2 CE Hrs



**Tuesday, October 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting,
Northern Panhandle**

Location: Crawford Elementary School
908 5th Street
Crawford, NE 69339

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Topic: : Programming

**Friday, November 20, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting,
Central Panhandle**

Location: Lyman Public Library
313 Jeffers Avenue
Lyman, NE 69352

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Topic: : Library Accreditation

Library Data & Keeping Statistics

**Monday, December 14, 2009 Public Librarians Meeting,
Southern Panhandle**

Location: Broadwater Public Library
(On West Side of Hwy 26)
Broadwater, NE 69125

Time: 10:00 a.m. Topic: Weeding



Please register 5 days before your meeting, with the Panhandle Library System office. Toll free 888-879-5303, Phone 308-632-1350, Fax 308-632-3978. Margie's E-mail: marjorie.harrison@nebraska.gov or Jeri's E-mail: jclapper@charterinternet.com

Sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, the Nebraska Library Commission, Houchens Bindery Ltd., and Lee Bookellers

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress in partnership with Target presents

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

Letters About Literature is a national reading and writing promotion program.

Participation Guidelines for Readers

Books have wings. You can't see them, but they are there just the same. On books' wings, readers can soar to new places where they meet intriguing characters and experience exciting adventures. But a book's wings can also help a reader rise above difficult situations so that they see the world — or themselves — with new understanding. Has a book touched your life in a personal way? If so, we invite you to enter this year's LAL competition. Have you ever felt the power and lift of literature?

How to Enter

First, determine your competition level. Letters About Literature welcomes entries from all readers — reluctant as well as enthusiastic — on three Levels of Competition. Entrants must be at least 8 years old and fall into one of the following categories:

Level 1 — Grades 4 – 6

Level 2 — Grades 7 – 8

Level 3 — Grades 9-12

Second, reflect and connect! Select a fiction or nonfiction book, a short story, poem, essay or speech (sorry, no song lyrics) you have read and about which you have strong feelings. Explore those feelings and why you reacted the way you did during or after reading the author's work. Consider one or more of these questions when writing your letter:

- Did the characters, conflict or setting mirror your life in some way? If so, how? If not, why not?
- What strengths or flaws do you share with a character or characters in the book?
- What did the book show you about your world that you never noticed before?

• What surprised you about yourself while you were reading this book? Why was this work meaningful to you? Your letter need not answer all of these questions, of course. These are just starting points to spark ideas.

Third, write a personal, reflective letter (not a fan letter or a book report!) Express yourself. A letter is less formal than an essay or research paper. Write honestly and in your own voice, as if you were having a conversation with the author. Those are the best letters to read and the most fun to write! Keep in mind these two tips:

- Correspond, don't compliment! Your letter should inform rather than flatter the author.
- Do not summarize the book's plot! The author wrote the book and knows what happened. What the author doesn't know is how the book affected you.

Our judges do not count words but we do have recommended lengths: Entries for Level 1 should be no less than 100 words and no more than 400 words. Entries for Level 2 should be no less than 300 words and no more than 600 words. Entries for Level 3 should be no less than 500 words and no more than 800 words. Please refer to the Contest Entry Guidelines in Rules #4 of the Official rules found at www.lettersaboutliterature.org for complete information on how to prepare your letter.

Fourth, submit your letter by December 12, 2009, using the required entry coupon. (See next page!)

STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS

LAL awards prizes on both the state and national levels. Each state center has its own panel of judges who select the top essayists in the state. State Winners will receive a \$50 Target GiftCard and additional prizes, and then advance to the National Level Judging.

On each competition level, a panel of national judges for the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will select six (6) **National Winners** (2 per Level of Competition) and twelve (12) **National Honorable Mention Winners** (4 per Level of Competition). The National Winners will receive a \$500 Target GiftCard, plus each will win a \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant for his or her community or school library so that others can experience personal relationships with authors and the stories they tell. Additionally, the National Honorable Mention Winners will each receive a \$100 Target GiftCard and a \$1,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant for the community or school library. The community or school library selected for the National Winners and National Honorable Mention Winners is at the Sponsor's sole direction. Refer to the National Level Judging in the Official Rules for more details.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A Purchase will not enhance your chances of winning. MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN. Open to legal residents of the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands enrolled as a student in grades 4-12 during the 2009-2010 school year, 9 years or older as of 9/1/09. Contest starts 8/1/09 and ends 12/12/09. Void where prohibited. Subject to Official Rules found at www.loc.gov/loc/sfbook/letters.html.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES

RETURN ADDRESS. Print your name and complete return address (either home or school) in the upper right corner of the first page of your letter. Letters without a return address and adequate contact information will be disqualified.

ENTRY COUPON. Each letter must be accompanied by an entry coupon (below). Staple the coupon to the last page of your letter. Should you win a state or a national prize, your State Center for the Book will contact you using this information, so be sure your coupon is complete and legible!

MAILING ENVELOPE. Entries should be mailed in a flat 8x10" envelope or larger. Please indicate the competition level — either 1, 2, or 3 — on your envelope. Your Entry must be postmarked by December 12, 2009, (and arrive at LAL Central no later than December 22, 2009). Mail to:

Letters About Literature Competition
Level (Indicate level 1, 2, or 3) P.O. Box
609 Dallas, PA 18612

ASSESSMENT. All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Content** (the writer's achievement in addressing the contest theme).
- **Writer's Voice** (the writer's style and originality of expression).
- **Exposition** (the writer's use of language skills, organization and grammar).

Each criterion will be scored on a scale of zero (0) to five (5), where five (5) is excellent and zero (0) is not fulfilling the judging criteria.

OWNERSHIP. All letters become the property of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Please make a copy of your entry as no letters will be returned.

NOTIFICATION & CONTACT. State Centers for the Book will notify state winners on or about 3/21/10. The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress will notify National Winners and National Honorable Mention Winners on or about 4/30/10. www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/letters.html. For program updates, please refer to the LAL website, www.lettersaboutliterature.org or e-mail us at lal@epix.net

Note for Teachers Submitting Class Sets:

- When mailing class sets, please include a cover letter that lists the names of each child who has written a letter. Mail class sets in one flat envelope rather than individual envelopes. Use one envelope for each level.
- Please do not assign the same book to an entire class, as this misses the spirit of the program — identifying a personal relationship with an author and/or book. Likewise, rather than assigning the same opening paragraph or topic sentences, encourage students to express themselves individually.
- Visit www.lettersaboutliterature.org for free teaching materials, including lesson plans, assessment checklists, writing samples, plus teaching tips from our many LAL teachers who have participated in the past.

Letters About Literature 2009-2010 Entry Coupon (cut & staple to letter)

PLEASE PRINT. Often our failure to contact you is due to incomplete or illegible information on the entry coupon.

Name _____ Age _____ Home Phone (optional) (_____) _____

Grade (circle one grade only): Level 1: 4 5 6 Level 2: 7 8 Level 3: 9 10 11 12 Book/Story Title _____

Author _____ Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Parental _____

Signature _____

(required if submitting as an individual entry): _____

IMPORTANT! If submitting through a school or library, please complete the additional information below:

School/Library: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School/Library Telephone: (_____) _____ School/Library E-mail: _____

Teacher/Library Contact: _____

E 0028



Panhandle Library System
1517 Broadway, Suite 129
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Coordinator's phone: 308-632-3168

Assistant's phone: 308-632-1350

Toll Free: 888-879-5303

Fax: 308-632-3978

Website: www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/panhandle



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October/November 2009